

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended) A battery comprising an electrode unit comprising a negative electrode and positive electrode spirally wound around an axis of the electrode unit as an electricity generating element housed in a battery can, and a pair of negative and positive electrode ~~terminals~~ terminal assemblies for taking the electricity out of the battery, wherein ~~a terminal assembly of one of said negative and positive electrode terminals~~ terminal assemblies is secured to a lid of the battery, a current collector plate is connected to an edge of an electrode at one end of the electrode unit to electrically connect the electrode unit to the terminal assembly, and one or more than one connecting piece which is protrusively formed on a surface of the current collector plate on a side of said current collector plate not connected to said edge of an electrode is welded to a base portion of the terminal assembly to form a weld extending in the direction of the axis of the electrode unit.

2. (currently amended) The battery according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ a base portion of the terminal assembly comprises a flange portion and said flange portion is connected to an inner circumferential wall or outer circumferential wall of said one or

more than one connecting piece and is welded to said one or more than one connecting piece by laser beam welding.

3. (previously presented) The battery according to claim 2, wherein an outer circumferential wall of said one or more than one connecting piece and the inner circumferential wall of the flange portion are connected to form a connection, and a laser beam is irradiated onto said connection from outside the flange portion to weld said current collector plate to said terminal assembly.

4. (new) A battery comprising an electrode unit comprising a negative electrode and positive electrode spirally wound around an axis of the electrode unit as an electricity generating element housed in a battery can, and a pair of negative and positive electrode terminal assemblies for taking the electricity out of the battery, wherein one of said negative and positive electrode terminal assemblies is secured to a lid of the battery, a current collector plate directly contacts an edge of an electrode at one end of the electrode unit to electrically connect the electrode unit to the terminal assembly, and one or more than one connecting piece which is protrusively formed on a surface of the current collector plate on a side of said current collector

plate not in contact with said edge of an electrode is welded to a base portion of the terminal assembly to form a weld extending in the direction of the axis of the electrode unit.